## **CLAIMS**

A sound wave guide structure for a speaker system comprising:
a sound passage space connecting an inlet opening to an outlet opening;

the sound passage space being configured to branch in plural stages in a range from the inlet opening to the outlet opening to form a plurality of sound wave guide paths extending from the inlet opening to the outlet opening.

- 2. The sound wave guide structure for a speaker system according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of sound wave guide paths extend in a line shape from the inlet opening to the outlet opening.
- 3. The sound wave guide structure for a speaker system according to claim 1 or 2, wherein center axes of the plurality of sound wave guide paths are included in a flat plane.
- 4. The sound wave guide structure for a speaker system according to claim 1 or 2, wherein center axes of the plurality of sound wave guide paths are included in a curved plane or a bent plane.
- 5. The sound wave guide structure for a speaker system according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the outlet opening has a slit shape, and the sound wave guide path branches at respective branch points in a longitudinal direction of a slit of the outlet opening.
- 6. The sound wave guide structure for a speaker system according to claim 5, wherein the outlet opening of the slit shape extends in a straight line shape.

- 7. The sound wave guide structure for a speaker system according to claim 5, wherein the outlet opening of the slit shape extends to be curved in a convex curved line shape.
- 8. The sound wave guide structure for a speaker system according to claim 5, wherein the outlet opening of the slit shape extends to be curved in a convex circular arc shape.
- 9. The sound wave guide structure for a speaker system according to claim 5, wherein the outlet opening of the slit shape extends to be curved in a concave curved line shape.
- 10. The sound wave guide structure for a speaker system according to claim 5, wherein the outlet opening of the slit shape extends to be curved in a concave circular arc shape.
- 11. The sound wave guide structure for a speaker system according to any one of claims 1 to 10, wherein almost all of the plurality of sound wave guide paths have a substantially equal path length.
- 12. The sound wave guide structure for a speaker system according to any one of claims 5 to 10, wherein the sound wave guide path having an outlet at a position closer to a center of the outlet opening of the slit shape has a shorter path length.
- 13. The sound wave guide structure for a speaker system according to any one of claims 5 to 10, wherein the sound wave guide path having an outlet at a position closer to a center of the outlet opening of the slit shape has a longer path length.
- 14. The sound wave guide structure for a speaker system according to any one of claims 11

- to 13, wherein the path length is defined along a line passing through a middle point in a width direction of the path just after the branch point.
- 15. The sound wave guide structure for a speaker system according to any one of claims 1 to 14, wherein at least part of at least one of the plurality of sound wave guide paths extends in a curved line shape.
- 16. The sound wave guide structure for a speaker system according to any one of claims 1 to 14, wherein at least part of at least one of the plurality of sound wave guide paths extends in a S shape.
- 17. The sound wave guide structure for a speaker system according to any one of claims 1 to 16, wherein at least one of the plurality of sound wave guide paths has a largest height in an intermediate region between the inlet opening and the outlet opening of the sound passage space.
- 18. The sound wave guide structure for a speaker system according to claim 17, wherein the sound wave guide path has the largest height at the branch point thereof or in the vicinity of the branch point.
- 19. The sound wave guide structure for a speaker system according to any one of claims 1 to 18, wherein sound wave guide paths extending from the branch point merge at a merge point.
- 20. A horn speaker in which the sound wave guide structure for a speaker system

according to any one of claims 1 to 19 is applied to a throat portion thereof.